



**DWI Planning Council
Meeting Minutes
December 10th, 2015
12:30 PM
MATS Facility
5901 Zuni Street SE**

Voting Members:

Billy Baldwin
Sam Howarth
Ben Lewinger
Keith Hartnett
Thomas Scharmen
Analee Maestas
Rose Sena
Michelle Peacock

Guests:

Ruben Garcia
Phil Baca
William Campbell
Dr. Reed Hester

Non - Voting Members:

Fran Martinez-Romero
Elena Rodriguez
Beatrice Medina

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm by Chair Baldwin.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve agenda offered by Hartnett, seconded by Scharmen and approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **October, 2015**-Motion to approve offered by Hartnett, seconded by Scharmen and approved.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Right Turns RCT Project Cost Analysis, William Campbell

William Campbell briefly stated that he was here in October to update the Council on the Right Turns Program and results are looking good, he stated. The Council was interested in discussing costs associated with implementing this program and then gave Council members a cost analysis. Mr. Campbell then introduced Dr. Hester, the innovator of these interventions, and advised that he was in attendance to answer any questions.

Lupe Sanchez from Santa Fe County, who does mandate this program, was also supposed to attend with us but was unable to. He did say he is able to attend in January if you'd like him to. Santa Fe County did get a good response from those chosen for the pilot project so they instituted it for all offenders. This was obviously done in cooperation with the Courts system. Dr. Hester stated that he had met with Judge Alaniz here in Bernalillo County and presented this program, which impressed him. The Judge requested that his Court Administrators work with Right Turns, eventually which is how we've recruited volunteers from the DWI Schools. I have sent him a follow up email to discuss full rollout but I have not heard back from him. Depending on how you'd like to proceed he told the Council, we can try to set up a meeting with him again. Howarth explained that his understanding is that this is a two prong process: deliberation that the Council needs to have and then collectively trying to work with the Courts to make this a mandate for first time DWI offenders. Dr. Hester stated that most offenders are so overwhelmed with all the mandates they currently have, that getting them to do something voluntarily has been difficult, hence the move to make it part of standard operating procedure. Hartnett stated that from a logical standpoint, what is the reduction of impact on DWI's? Mr. Campbell replied that everything is hanging on the results of the clinical trial at this point. What we have found is that people use the internet as a source to determine if they have a drinking problem. These are not treatment seeking people but for those who go through our checkup program, evidence shows that they cut their drinking in half on average. We've also added the cognitive behavior exercise that is the toolbox that people have access to. It's rational to think that making this available to all DWI offenders will have an impact, both preventative and can be an actual intervention. What we are also proposing to do is provide feedback to the administrators of this program to get aggregate data to track the population's behavior or recidivism rates for at least the next 10 years. Lupe Sanchez could provide you with their data to give you an idea on how it's working. We feel we have substantial evidence as a basis for this clinical trial, but we're just having issue because it's voluntary. We're not getting as many participants as we'd like. Peacock asked if it was possible to get a discounted rate because you're going to be able to gather data from us, she said. Dr. Hester stated that they were authorized to offer a \$10K discount for the first year. The data we will provide our administrators is aggregate anonymous data, not individual responses. We have to keep that firewall because we don't want to be recognized as a branch of probation. Hartnett stated he was going to ask Lupe if any offenders got subsequent DWI's. Dr. Hester responded that it is way too early to know that. The average time for another offense is about 6 years. We are hoping through this program to decrease heavy drinking and increase abstinence, therefore decreasing recidivism and accident rates. He also agreed to give the Council members a reviewers code so that they could use the program. Scharmen asked, if this is mandated, are there any other types of interventions that already fill that need? I just know that there are already many mandates. Dr. Hester stated that they are not promoting moderate drinking with this, we are promoting abstinence. Lupe and William will be presenting this at the statewide DWI Affiliate Meeting in January. Peacock asked how long it'd take to roll this out. They responded that it all depends on how long it takes to work with the Courts. Peacock stated we really need to be prepared before presenting this to the Presiding Judge. Howarth also asked if data could be provided monthly, so we could see statistics. Dr. Hester stated that they would like to create a dashboard so that current data could be reviewed at any time. We will just need to

work with you on what you'd like to see. Fran reminded Council members that dependent on cost, we may need to go out for RFP or RFB on this. After further discussion, the Council agreed to meet with Lupe and the Courts. Peacock recommended that the Council prepare questions and be ready, just because of time limitations. Fran stated that the budget is on a tight deadline this year so decisions will need to be made by the next meeting. We can still incorporate this into the budget but we need to keep in mind that we have to do all of this and still abide by purchasing regulations. We will also need to decide where we may need to make funding cuts in other areas. Hartnett asked Fran to provide a preliminary budget so as least they can review where the funding is anticipated to be utilized. She agreed to send once the budget was determined. Lewinger asked if the County paid for any other interventions and why is the County paying for this? Why can't the offenders pay for this? The primary reason were asking for the County to pay at this point is clinical, stated Dr. Hester. There's already some resentment by offenders about all the costs associated with DWI. We feel they would be more inclined to use the program if they don't have to pay for it. We're looking at it from a public health standpoint. Lewinger recommended the Council invite Judges Alaniz, Flores and Benavidez. Council members agreed to try to meet with the Judges and Lupe before the January meeting, possibly in a Special Meeting.

b. Peter D, Resignation

Fran reported that Peter D has resigned from his contract. This was for media literacy in the high schools. His reason is that TSB funding is submitted later and later every year and it's difficult for providers to provide a year's worth of services in six months. It's just not feasible for him to do anymore. He will still provide presentations to UNM students, she stated. We will be reallocating that funding soon as well.

5. Old Business

a. Attendance and Quorums

Reports were distributed regarding attendance.

b. Next meeting

Next meeting will be held January 14th, 2015.

6. Public Comment

Hartnett requested to meet with the Restaurant Associations to collaborate with them and discuss ride services that are provided for their customers who may be drinking. Chair Baldwin agreed to look into it.

Fran stated that Tavern Taxi operated on Thanksgiving Eve. We had 18 rides with 37 passengers. She also stated that Pick Me Up Take Me Out will be offered on New Year's Eve. National Distributing and Admiral Beverage have donated \$4K to help fund this service.

- 7. Adjournment**
Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.



SUBMITTED BY:

Elena Rodriguez

Date

APPROVED BY:

Billy Baldwin, Chair

Date